

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TAIPEI 01481 250934Z

21

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 NSCE-00 SAJ-01 SAM-01 NIC-01 /080 W

----- 086334

R 250914Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4561

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 1481

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS PFOR TW CH UR US

SUBJECT: KMT OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON US CHINA POLICY AND  
ROC ACTION IN THE EVEN OF A SINO-SOVIET WAR

1. MARCH 22 LOCAL PRESS GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO A  
SPEECH TO THE CHINA SOCIETY OF JOURNALISM BY CHEN YU-CHING  
(7115/5940/3237), DIRECTOR OF THE KMT OVERSEAS AFFAIRS  
DEPARTMENT, CHEN REPORTEDLY SAID, AMONG OTHER THINGS,  
THAT HE THOUGHT IT UNLIKELY THAT THE US WOULD RECOGNIZE  
PEKING DURING PRESIDENT FORD'S UPCOMING VISIT TO THE PRC  
BUT DID NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE FORD VISIT  
MAY RESULT IN EXTENDING MOST-FAVORED-NATION STATUS TO THE  
PRC AND ACCELERATING COMMERCIAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGES.

2. ENGLISH-LANGUAGE CHINA NEWS TREATMENT OF CHEN'S  
SPEECH WAS CONSIDERABLY DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF THE  
CHINESE-LANGUAGE PRESS, HEADLINING CHEN'S REMARKS,  
"THE ROC WILL DELIVER ITS PROMISE TO RETAKE THE MAIN-  
LAND IN CASE OF A LARGE-SCALE MILITARY CLASH" BETWEEN  
PEKING AND MOSCOW AND "THE ROC WOULD ALSO FIGHT SIMUL-  
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PAGE 02 TAIPEI 01481 250934Z

TANEOUSLY THE RUSSIANS INVADING THE MAINLAND." THE

CHINA NEWS COMMENTED THAT CHEN "IS THE FIRST PUBLIC FIGURE TO SPELL OUT WHAT THE ROC WILL DO IN THE EVENT OF A SHOOTING WAR BETWEEN THE TWO COMMUNIST GIANTS." WHILE CHINESE-LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS ALSO REPORTED CHEN'S REMARKS ON ROC ACTION IN THE EVENT OF A SINO-SOVIET CLASH, THEY WERE BURIED DEEP IN THE TEXT OF THE ARTICLES.

3. COMMENT: CHEN'S REMARKS AS REPORTED ARE THE MOST EXPLICIT STATEMENT ON ROC REACTION TO A SINO-SOVIET WAR THAT WE HAVE SEEN IN THE PRESS IN RECENT TIMES, BUT WE ARE RELUCTANT TO READ TOO MUCH INTO THEM. NONETHELESS, THEY PROBABLY FIND WIDE SUPPORT AMONG HARD-LINE KMT MAINLANDERS.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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